



## NEWS RELEASE

**NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA) – 1300 MILITARY ROAD – LINCOLN, NE 68508-1090**  
Joint Information Center (JIC) **Flood Hotline: (855) 211-2453 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily**

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### **Federal Disaster Public Assistance Approved for Nebraska Counties** **Individual Assistance in 9 counties will help qualified individuals in declared counties recover**

Lincoln, Neb — Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman received word today from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials that President Barack Obama approved a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for parts of Nebraska impacted by recent flooding and storms.

The president, through FEMA, issued two separate declarations. The first declaration was for public assistance following severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding that occurred June 19-21. Public Assistance was approved in the following counties:

Buffalo, Chase, Dodge, Furnas, Hamilton, Hayes, Phelps, Polk, Red Willow and York.

The second disaster declaration was approved for flooding from May 24 to Aug. 1. Public Assistance was approved in the following counties:

Burt, Cass, Dakota, Douglas, Garden, Knox, Lincoln, Otoe, Sarpy, Scotts Bluff, Thurston and Washington.

Nemaha and Richardson Counties will receive Public Assistance for emergency protective measures under the Public Assistance program.

Individual Assistance was approved in this declaration for the following counties:

Boyd, Burt, Cass, Dakota, Dixon, Douglas Knox, Sarpy and Washington.

“This public assistance will help our local communities recover some of the costs associated with responding to the emergency situations and rebuilding public infrastructure damaged by this disaster,” said Al Berndt, assistant director of NEMA. “Nebraskans have been responding to flooding on both the Missouri and Platte Rivers since May and this declaration is much appreciated and needed.”

The disaster declarations allow federal emergency funding to be used in providing assistance to state and local governmental agencies and some nonprofit organizations.

FEMA indicated that other Nebraska counties may be added to the disaster declaration as additional damage assessments are compiled from areas impacted by flooding. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) expects to submit additional information as waters recede and further assessments are done.

The State of Nebraska, local governments and qualified individuals in the declared disaster counties are now eligible to apply for and receive federal disaster aid.

“NEMA will continue to assess damages as flood waters recede,” Berndt said. “We are working with the FEMA’s Joint Field Office here in Lincoln to start damage assessments and the recovery process.”

Information on FEMA Public Assistance can be found at [www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/index.shtm) and Individual Assistance application information is available at <http://www.fema.gov/assistance/index.shtm>.

For more updates regarding the state’s response, visit the NEMA website at [www.nema.nebraska.gov](http://www.nema.nebraska.gov).



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